

English Language Entry Requirements

This document details the University position on English language requirements. In line with the introduction of Points Based Immigration, English language requirements are becoming tighter. In an effort to continue the development of postgraduate recruitment and to protect the University's Highly Trusted Status as a sponsored institution, a more robust admissions process in relation to English language entry requirements is required.

In general, the University require an overall IELTS 6.0 (or equivalent) with no component below 5.5 for any student whose first language is not English. Some programmes may require a higher score and therefore should approach the Dean of the International College for agreement. (Some exemptions may also apply – these are detailed below).

Who needs to prove English language ability?

International students whose first language is not English are required to have an appropriate grade/score in an approved examination in English language before they can register on an academic programme.

Home students: Home Students are required to have an appropriate grade/score in an approved examination in English language before they can register on an academic programme. This is normally a pass in Standard Grade/ GCSE English Language or equivalent.

EU students: English language ability will be plotted against the six levels of the 'Common European Framework for Reference'. An English language qualification that can be verified and is above level C1 will be required.

Students doing exchange/1 semester in the UK/English speaking country: If the time spent was at Edinburgh Napier University, results will be used as the basis for the decision. If students have completed the semester at a different UK institution they are required to submit a reference or transcripts for analysis.

International students: International students whose first language is not English are required to have an appropriate grade/score in an approved examination in English language before they can register on an academic programme. Exceptions are sometimes made for students who have had their education entirely in the medium of English and where English is a well-established second language. These exemptions will usually be made following an interview with the student and only if the student is unable to take one of the recommended tests in time for admission.

Applicants who have completed a recognised degree or who have successfully completed the whole of their secondary education (up to and including the equivalent of year twelve/fifth high school year) in one of the countries listed.

List of countries with English Instruction

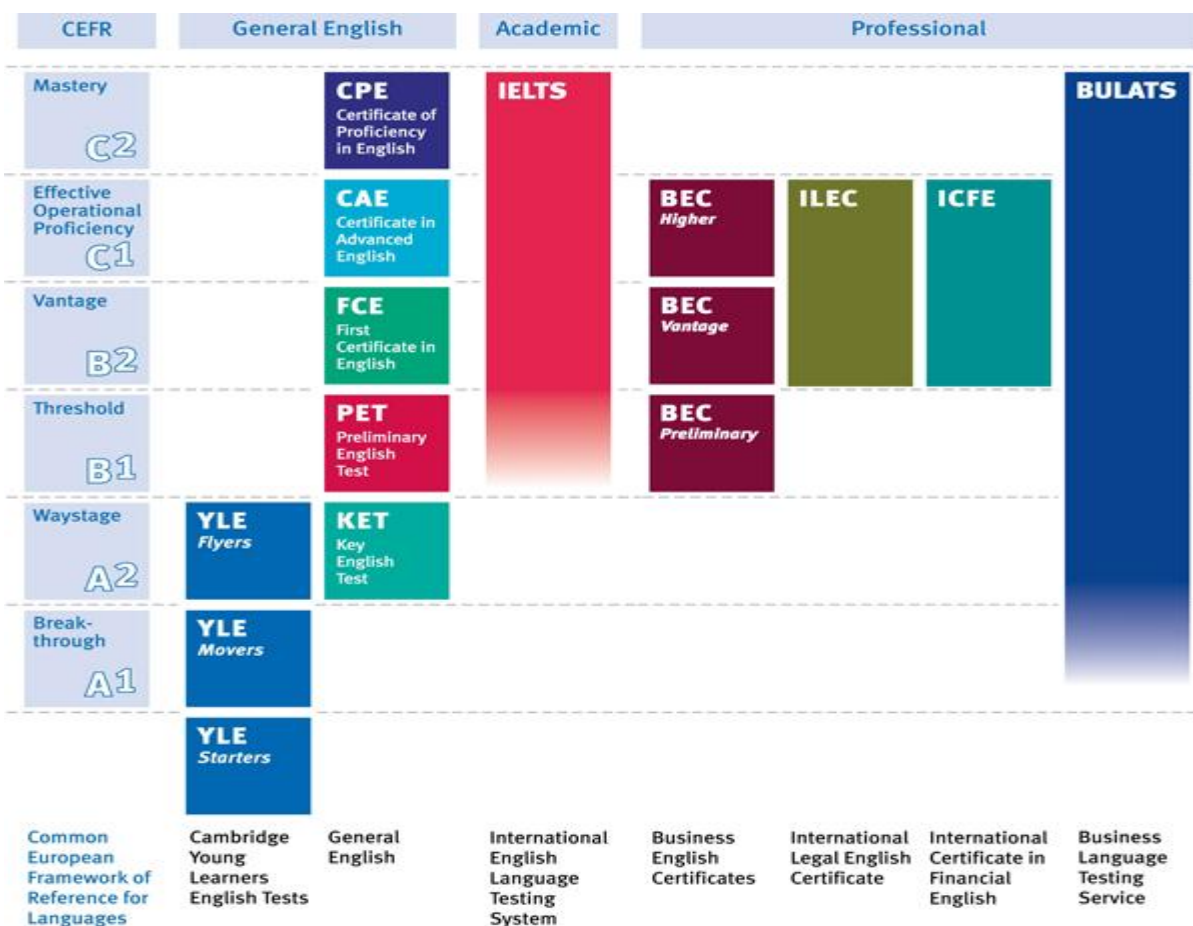
American Samoa	Falkland Islands	Liberia	St Lucia
Anguilla	Fiji	Malta	St Vincent & the Grenadines
Antigua & Barbuda	Gambia	Mauritius	Trinidad & Tobago
Australia	Ghana	Montserrat	Tanzania
Bahamas	Gibraltar	New Zealand	Turks & Caicos Island
Bermuda	Grenada	Nigeria	Uganda
Belize	Guam	Seychelles	United Kingdom
Botswana	Guyana	Sierra Leone	USA
British Virgin Islands	Ireland	Singapore	US Virgin Islands
Canada (incl. Quebec)	Jamaica	South Africa	Zambia
Cayman Islands	Kenya	St Helena	Zimbabwean
Dominica	Lesotho	St Kitts & Nevis	

What are acceptable qualifications?

The following are the recognised English Language qualifications which will be accepted and what we will encourage students to undertake:

- The Academic version of the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS): This is available world-wide through British Council Centres.
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). This is a paper version with a writing test (TWE).
- Pearsons Test of English Language (PTE)

Any other English language test results will be referred to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and if the results can be validated as level C1 or above, these will also be accepted.



(Source: <http://www.cambridgeesol.org/exams/exams-info/cefr.html>)

All grades/scores are valid for a maximum period of two years prior to the date of registration.

Please see the table below for a rough guide to equivalencies across the officially accepted qualifications:

IELTS	TOEFL IBT	PEARSONS PTE
5.0	35-54	35-41
5.5	55-74	42-49
6.0	75-86	50-57
6.5	87-94	58-63
7.0	95-105	64-72
7.5	106-114	73-79
8.0	115-120	80-86

Performance at Interview

The only instances where we would not require any evidence of an English language test are when students are interviewed face to face (e.g. on recruitment drives overseas) and when testing would not be completed in time for admission. It is recommended that staff offering admission attend IELTS training or view the DVD "IELTS Scores Explained". A copy can be borrowed from Admissions or can be purchased from www.ielts.org.

Examples of what is not accepted

The following instances are NOT recognised as satisfying the English language requirements:

Evidence submitted	Explanation
Indian school leaving certificate Year X and XII English	Time lapsed from gaining qualification to application. This may be considered if other evidence is provided e.g. the student has also studied for a year in the US
A reference stating English language ability (unless in situation stated above)	Cannot verify its authenticity nor judge its content
Personal statements	Cannot verify its authenticity nor judge its content
Secondary school English exams when English is not the first language (e.g. German applicant with English in Abitur)	Cannot verify the volume of English used in the assessment